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**NATIONAL PARTY.**  
—  
**ADOPTING A PROGRAMME**  
—  
**LAND POLICY.**  
—  
**ONE MEMBER "CARPETED"**

A largely-attended meeting of the new national party recently formed amongst members of the New South Wales Parliament was held yesterday, the Premier, Mr. Holman presiding. The chief business of the meeting was to arrive at a decision concerning the adoption of a policy, about which there had been several previous meetings. Except for one incident, the deliberations were the most cordial Association. Mr. Holman

Ministers orally express gratification at the political fusion of opposite and opposite factions should have been finally consummated with a little fiction.

Arthur Meighen, the new premier, Mr. Holman said, the programme had been finally fixed. But there were only two or three matters still outstanding. One was the question of the land policy of the Government. On the subject of the land matter, Mr. Meighen said, the Government intended to meet the Minister for Lands, Mr. Ford, to-morrow. The matter still under consideration is the question of whether the Government shall pin its faith to any particular form of tenure, or whether it will favour freedom. It may be taken for granted that when the policy is announced the question will be left completely optional to settlers, and that an effort will be made to give the Government the best of the standard forms of tenure. The right of conversion to freehold is also

certain, however, to be included in final decision. It is understood that question of electoral reform is also still unsettled. A very strong claim is being made for the adoption of proportional representation, on a preferential voting system, substituting a new scheme of electorates, returning two or more representatives each, in order to ensure the adequate representation of substantial minorities. It is also possible that a limitation of the tenure of members of the Upper House will be agreed to, in order to bring the present life tenure in the Senate into line with the life tenure in the House of Representatives.

That the policy has been almost completely taken from the fact that the basis of its adjustment has been left to the market. Referring to the matter generally, Holman said it would be found that the national party's policy would be thoroughly democratic and progressive. It will embrace

the progressive measures that are the realm of practical politics, while avoiding the extreme proposals which have been put forward during recent years as a sort of "topper" to the sound proposals of the days of the Labour party. The Premier stated that he would probably take an opportunity of making a pronouncement on the National wage policy in a public speech.

The one unpleasant incident referred to arose between Mr. Ashford, Minister for Lands, and Mr. R. A. Price, the member for Gloucester. In a speech in the Legislative Assembly, on the railway works estimate last week, Mr. Price made some grave charges against the Minister for Lands, all of which at the behest of two German com-

Mr. Ashford had secured a very large deviation in his electorate—involving an additional cost of £80,000—notwithstanding the fact that the Railway Commissioners had then Minister for Works (Mr. Cann) had decided most emphatically that there was no warrant for the deviation. The speech was made in the absence of the Minister.

whom the allegations were made, and to place his denial on record in "Hansard." The Minister, however, brought the matter to the party meeting yesterday. He gave no charge an absolute denial, stating that he was not a particle of truth in it, and declaring that he had no knowledge at all of the Garman constituents, referred to by

Price. It is understood that Mr. Asquith went so far as to ask for the exclusion of Mr. Price from the new party. No answer was reached, however. It is now stated that the whole matter is to be inquired into by a sub-committee of the party, after which it will be dealt with by the Premier.

THE MALTESE.  
EXCLUSION UNWARRANTED

## MILLIONS CLUB'S PROTEST

The Federal Government's attitude toward immigration, as exemplified by its action in excluding Maltese, was strongly criticized at a special "immigration" luncheon held at

Mr. Arthur Rickard, who presided, said the Millions Club, noting an apparent indifference to the Government's action, decided to take action itself, and a telegram had been sent to the Prime Minister protesting against the treatment meted out to those who were

the treatment decision. The committee was recently refused admittance to Australia. An acknowledgment had been received at that the matter was under consideration no doubt it would end there. A good misconception existed regarding the Nal. Many people appeared to think that they had a case, but this was not so. The

British subjects; but, apart from that, they were men of good physique, possessed of great energy, and had every reason to recommend them as desirable settlers. Those who had come to this country in the past had joined unions, and had been paid for by the unions. The men who had come to this country in the past had joined unions, and had been paid for by the unions.

the same rate as the natives—  
in view of these facts. It seemed increas-  
that for political reasons any Government  
should have decided to exclude them from  
country. Mr. Hughes, following on  
about a number of Maltese out, appar-  
ly for no other reason than to placate  
the more than half of these

Maltese had fought at Gallipoli with  
traillans, and had of them went down in  
Jutland battle. When our men were  
and landed at Malta nothing was too  
for them, and at the very time that  
subjects of the King were being refused  
passage to Australia the shipwrecked

Mr. Rickard then moved:—That, in view of the speech of the Prime Minister at the Lords on August 7, in which he stated

'If Australia was to be held a "peopled," and in view of the urgent need for Australia to be prepared to cope with after-war emigration, this meeting of the Millions Club of New South Wales urged the Federal Government to give definite expression to its immigration policy, and take immediate steps to put same into active operation.'

The motion was supported by Dr. Arthur H. H. Conroy, and Mr. Percy H. H. Conroy, and carried.

The following motion by Mr. A. H. H. Conroy, and seconded by Mr. F. G. Crouch, was then carried:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the Maltese at present in custody should be immediately released, and the

**FINANCING THE STATE**

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Following upon the recent Premier's Conference, arrangements have been made by the Commonwealth to raise a loan in London to meet the more pressing needs of the war.

Some of these advances have already been made. They are being made out of money loaned to the Commonwealth by the Federal Treasurer, Mr. Pope, who has agreed to advance considerable sums to the States during the next few days.

Government for war purposes, and the advances will be reimbursed to the war office when the projected loan of £3,500,000 is raised in London. The sums to be advanced are as follows:—

Victoria,	£150,500,	on December 31.
Queensland,	£385,000,	on December 31.
Western Australia,	£201,000,	on December 31.

13, and £239,500 on January 1, 1934.  
 Tasmania, £66,000, on December 13.  
 The amounts will be paid into the  
 State funds in London, to most urgent  
 gations there. Western Australia is also  
 receive an advance of £140,000 in August  
 at once.

## ORGANISING BRITISH PLANS UNIVERSAL SERVICE SCHEME TO PRODUCE FOOD.

## U.S.A. NOTE TO ALL BELLIGERENTS REQUEST TO STATE OBJECTS.

Different reports convey details of Mr. Lloyd George's bold and comprehensive schemes for completely organising the British nation for war.

Universal service is the basis of the schemes. If the labour required does not voluntarily enrol, a system of compulsion will be sought. It is intended completely to control the labour market, and move bodies of workers about as required. No non-essential industry will be allowed to carry on. Every possible man will be released for military service.

A system of producing food within Britain will be initiated. Each county will be allotted certain duties in connection therewith.

The President of the United States has presented to each belligerent a Note in which he asks, without proposing peace or mediation, that each shall state the objects for which it is fighting.

## WESTERN FRONT.

General Sir Douglas Haig, in his most recent report, says the enemy's position is particularly active but that the British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks.

A French communiqué, issued on Wednesday, states: "There is nothing important to report on the Western front since the last report of the 19th." It adds, however, that the British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks.

The French communiqué issued at midday on Wednesday states: "South of the Somme, the British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks."

A French communiqué states: "The British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks on the Western front."

## GERMAN FORCES. VERDUN AND THE SOMME.

General Haig, in his report, says the situation in the Somme is "very serious." He adds, however, that the British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks.

The French communiqué states: "The British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks on the Western front."

## DOBRUDJA BATTLE. INTENSE FIGHTING. ENEMY MEETS RESISTANCE.

A Russian communiqué states: "We repelled enemy attacks in the region of Dobrudja." It adds, however, that the British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks.

## ATTACKS NEAR BRODY.

A Russian communiqué states: "We repelled enemy attacks in the region of Brody." It adds, however, that the British have been successful in repelling the enemy's attacks.

## APPEAL TO POWERS. BY UNITED STATES PRESIDENT. TO STATE OBJECTS OF WAR.

## "INTERCHANGE OF VIEWS" WANTED.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. The following is the text of an American Note which has been sent to all belligerents and all neutrals by the Secretary of State, Mr. Robert Lansing:

"The President has instructed me to suggest a course of action regarding the war, which he hopes your Government will consider as suggested in the friendliest spirit, and as coming not only from a friend but also from a representative of a neutral Power, whose interests are being seriously affected by the war, and whose concern for its early conclusion arises out of manifest necessity to determine how to safeguard their interests."

"The President has long had the suggestion in mind. He is somewhat embarrassed to offer it at this particular time, because it may seem to have been prompted by the recent overtures of the Central Powers. But the President considers the question of peace has not been suggested in connection with other proposals which have the same end in view. The President begs that the suggestion will be considered entirely on its merits."

"The President suggests that an early occasion be sought to ask the belligerents their views, their terms of peace, and their opinions on an arrangement which will be a satisfactory guarantee against a renewal, or kindling, of any similar conflict in the future. This will make it possible for the President to compare views."

"The President is indifferent regarding the means to be taken to accomplish this. He will be happy to serve, or even to take the initiative in any way which is acceptable. He calls attention to the fact that the objects which the belligerents state in their terms of peace, and their opinions on an arrangement which will be a satisfactory guarantee against a renewal, or kindling, of any similar conflict in the future. This will make it possible for the President to compare views."

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## ORGANISING THE NATION. VERY BOLD SCHEME. SERVICE FOR ALL. MOBILITY OF LABOUR WANTED. COMPULSION IF REQUIRED.

LONDON, Dec. 20. The "Daily Chronicle," outlining the scope of national war service, says the scheme is of the boldest and most far-reaching character. Men between 17 and 50 will be placed themselves at the disposal of the State for the duration of the war, and consent to be transferred to occupations and localities where their services are most required. It is essential that the State must have power to control and direct the mobility of labour. There is no question at present that a man released from the army for agricultural work will return to the land.

The Government proposes that full trade-union wages be paid to war-workers, in addition to a subsistence allowance of 2s. 6d. daily if the men are transferred and, therefore, have to leave their homes. A schedule of indispensable and non-essential trades will be drawn up. The non-essential industries will be shut down without compulsion, in order that labour may be available for munitions and production industries.

The stimulation of the mobility of labour is important, as adding to its quantity. It is estimated that 40 per cent. of the war-workers at any given time are idle, owing to the lack of mobility. One of Colonel Sir Neville Chamberlain's chief functions will be the performing of the duties of workers to places where workers are urgently required. He will have the power to billet war-workers in private houses. It is important that trade-union leaders be associated with Sir Neville Chamberlain.

The analogy of Lord Derby's recruiting scheme, a short time will be allowed for the voluntary enrolment of war-workers. If the necessary men are not forthcoming, the Government will appeal to Parliament for compulsory powers.

The War Office has released 12,000 miners who are unfit for general service, and they have returned to the mines.

## PRODUCTION OF FOOD. TASK FOR EACH COUNTY. COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME.

LONDON, Dec. 21. Mr. R. E. Prothero, the new President of the Board of Agriculture, addressing agricultural committees in London, said his department had prepared a scheme for the fullest utilisation of the land.

It was supplying every acre with a list of crops to be grown, and the quantities it was desirable to grow.

A survey would be carried out in every county, and there would be compulsory acquisition of land, if that were necessary. Farmers would be empowered to plough ground to produce any immediate relief in connection with the food supply, adding: "It is impossible to increase the ration of bread, meat or anything else."

The War Office had decided that it will not call up more agricultural workers at present.

It was hoped similarly to organise an economical scheme of pig-breeding.

Mr. Prothero added that there will not be any fiddling with the maximum and minimum price of wheat. If the wheat price falls, the Government will lose; if it rises, the Government will gain.

The Southgate Council is employing 100 interned Germans to cultivate and mind the council's land. The Government had paid for each man, and also 12d. per acre to each man.

In many quarters it is considered that the meat restrictions in hotels and restaurants have already failed. The "Daily Chronicle" says the restrictions have proved unworkable. They do not reduce consumption. Different measures are being considered. Other newspaper editors anticipate that the Food Controller (Lord Devonport) will soon take action in this direction.

The Treasury is financing a scheme to distribute seed potatoes to growers and small holders. The Board of Agriculture is urging farmers to increase the production of oats, potatoes, etc. they could easily provide sufficient for home requirements.

## THE NEW DIRECTOR. RAIL FARES HIGHER.

Mr. Roberts (Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Transport) has announced that the Board of Transport will increase rail fares by half in the new year, with some exceptions. The department was also reducing train services.

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## LOSS OF SUFFREN. AUSTRALIAN PRISONERS. DETAILS OF TREATMENT. VARIED ACCORDING TO HOSPITALS.

LONDON, Dec. 21. The Germans officially claim that the French battleship "Suffren" (25,000 tons), which was reported lost on December 8, was torpedoed 50 miles north-west of Lisbon on November 25.

Seven Australians were taken on board the latest batch of exchanged prisoners from Germany.

They are Privates Canavan, 2nd Battalion; Morton, 3rd; Forrester, 4th; Harold Keane, 5th; Vernon Kille, 7th; Victor Shields, 2nd; and John O'Sullivan, 25th Battalion.

Although their wounds are serious, all are delighted to return. They complain bitterly of the inadequacy of food supplied to the prisoners. Their experience varied considerably regarding the treatment in different hospitals. Some were carefully nursed, but others were shamefully neglected. Their wounds were often undressed for many days until the smell caused a general protest.

Some of the doctors were sympathetic. Others were brutal. "But," said O'Sullivan, "our chief trouble was the doctors. We were being hungry, but we could not sleep. We were being ill, until the Australian Red Cross parcels arrived. They were a God-send. Afterwards we never touched black bread, which included scum and sawdust. Some of the prisoners got mouthfuls of sawdust—seven small chips of wood. It was horrible—unpalatable and tasteless. The German prisoners, however, were given any food in the summer, was very hard. We soaked it in water and dried it on the stove, when it became good eating."

Private Mullin, who lost the sight of his right eye, was being to throw back a hand grenade which was aimed at an officer, missed his aim and fell into a shell-hole on No. 10's line at Pozieres. The German soldiers on the other side of the trench were not touched for nine days. The soldiers were not washed until he returned to England. When he was taken prisoner, he was given a watch, a pocket watch, a pen, a book, a photograph, and a Testament. Apart from bread, the food consisted of one meal of water soup, with cabbage, carrots, sugar, and milk, and salty bread or coarse porridge twice weekly. He received meat, which tasted like horseflesh. It was eight weeks before the German soldiers on the other side of the trench were not touched for nine days. The soldiers were not washed until he returned to England. When he was taken prisoner, he was given a watch, a pocket watch, a pen, a book, a photograph, and a Testament. 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## COPENHAGEN, Dec. 11 (AP)—

in Hamburg. It is akin to cancer, and is believed to have been caused by the new war foods.

Thirty children die from it daily.

**CLUB UNDER A BAN.**

LONDON, Dec. 20.

The night club, known as Cirrus, which was recently raided by the police, was struck off the register. Two managers were each fined £125, and £25 costs, and three directors were each fined, say costs.

**IRISH RAILWAYMEN.**

LONDON, Dec. 21.

The Government, which recently took over the Irish railways, has granted the Irish railwaymen an increase of 7½ per week in their wages.

**INFLUENTIAL PRINCE DEAD.**

BRUSHMAN, Thursday.

The remains of the late Sir Arthur Morgan were accorded a public funeral this afternoon. After an impressive service in the Anglican Cathedral, conducted by Archbishop Dunlop from the pulpit, the cortege proceeded to the cemetery, and was witnessed by many thousands. It preceded by way of Queen-street to the Town Hall.

The late Sir Arthur Morgan was the first Quakerlander to occupy the Speaker's Chair in the Legislative Assembly, and the first Quakerlander to occupy the high post of Lieutenant-Governor and Deputy-Governor of this State. The late Sir Arthur Morgan was 76 years of age, having been born at Warwick in Queensland, on September 13, 1851.

As a young man Sir Arthur entered the office of a solicitor, and was a very successful one, that time owned and edited by his father. In 1886 he was elected Mayor of Warwick, a

The deceased was appointed Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in 1895. He remained in that position until 1907, when he resigned to take up the leadership of a Government formed by the coalition of certain Liberals and Labour followers. He remained Premier until January, 1908, when death removed Mr. Hugh Nelson, and rendered vacant the post

to which Sir Arthur Morgan was then appointed. Among his many activities Sir Arthur Morgan was president of the Queensland National Association for many years. He leaves a widow, five sons, and three daughters. His elder son, Lieutenant A. C. Morgan, is on active service.

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## CARPENTERS AND THE P.L.L.

At a meeting of the Newtown branch of the

ers, held in St. George's Hall on Tuesday night, a letter was received from the P.L.L., pointing out the advantages of the union in increasing its annual contribution to that body to 4d per member.

A resolution was carried declining to do as suggested, and declaring that the time had arrived when the union should seriously consider the advisability of withdrawing from the P.L.L., owing to its having become a discredited body.

Acting upon the decision of the Film Censorship Board, arrived at unanimously, the Chief Secretary, Mr. G. W. Fuller, yesterday issued instructions that no more public displays of the picture—viz., "Twilight Hour," which had been exhibited at the Lyceum Theatre since Monday last, were to be given. The picture was immediately withdrawn from the programme.

Camira, s. for Quercus (all parts), via Novara.

TELEGRAPHIC SHIPPING

TOWNSVILLE 11:55am Arr. Dec. 21, Wyndah, &  
from Melbourne

FIAT TOP 10:00am Arr. Dec. 21, Coma, & for  
Brisbane and Bowen Dep. Dec. 21, Dulacca & for  
Melbourne

BRISBANE 11:00am Arr. Dec. 21, Ringas, &  
Toucanville; Flinders, & from Hamburg; Hamilton, &  
from Melbourne

MILSON 11:00am Arr. Dec. 21, outward; Dec. 21,  
Woolgong, & from the Woolgong; Mar. 1, 1932, &  
Melbourne, & from the Woolgong; Mar. 1, 1932, &  
POINT & HALLERS 11:00am Dep. Dec. 21, Rakana,  
& for Sydney

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Coxell, Horner	1	Red Cross	1
Christmas Cheer	8	Redding	1
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Financing the States	6	Spilling Intelligence	1
Late Sir Arthur Mo-		Steamer Fares	1
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Leaders, etc.		The South	1
League of Honor		The Weather	1
London College		W. H. H. H.	1

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**TO-DAY.**

War Intervention Service, St. Andrew's Comm-  
1. Her Majesty's Theatre: "A White Dress," 7.6  
Criterion: "The Land of Promise," 8.  
Tivoli: "The Passing Show," 8.  
Garden Theatre: The Bandies, 8.15.  
The Palladium, foot of William-street: 7.30 to 11.  
A. Nichols, Secretary.

Picture Block Theatres: Crystal Palace  
Empress Theatres, 10 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.  
Australian Picture Palace, Liverpool-street: 11 to 12.  
American Picture Palace: 10.30 to 10.50.  
Olympia, Oxford-street: West's Pictures, 2.30 and 5.  
Hay's Picture Theatre, George-street.  
White City: 7.30.

10 to 3.00.  
Taronga Park Zoo: 9 till 6.



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**EIGHT GOOD, STRONG, RELIABLE**  
**CHEAP.** Suit week-end camps or furnished  
from £10 to £15; also Five Beautiful  
Pianos, equal to new.

**FOR SALE.**  
(Continued from page 8.)

**NEW AND SECOND-HAND FURNITURE AT**  
**SEYMOUR'S FURNISHING, 114**  
**1205 PITT ST. ONLY**  
**NEAR BATHURST STREET, OPPOSITE THE**  
**WARRANDER, MOORE, DAWSON BUILDING,**  
**with 2217/8.**  
**CHEST OF DRAWERS, large size, good**

TELESCOPE DINING TABLE, in Solid Walnut, out to 8ft, worth £7/10/, will £4.  
SIDEBOARD, SOLID WALNUT, 6ft long, 18in deep, 2ft 6in high, worth £12/10/, will £8.

[illegible]

TOILET FAIR, Large size, oak finish, cost  
sell \$6.10.  
OVERMANTLE, Maple finish, latest design  
sell \$4.12 1/2

WE HAVE  
HUNDREDS UPON HUNDREDS OF  
ALL KINDS OF NEW AND SECOND  
HAND FURNITURE AND  
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